

*Text of Pres. Eisenhower remarks at Cornerstone Laying Ceremonies*  
FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY, NOVEMBER 3, 1959

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

TEXT OF THE REMARKS BY PRESIDENT  
EISENHOWER AT CEREMONIES LAYING  
THE CORNERSTONE OF THE CENTRAL  
INTELLIGENCE AGENCY BUILDING,  
LANGLEY, VIRGINIA, NOVEMBER 3, 1959

America's fundamental aspiration is the preservation of peace.  
To this end we seek to develop policies and arrangements to make the  
peace both permanent and just. This can be done only on the basis *comprehensive*  
of required information.

*and appropriate*  
In war nothing is more important to a commander than the facts  
concerning the strength, dispositions and intention of his opponent, and  
the proper interpretation of those facts. In peacetime the necessary  
facts are of a different nature. They deal with conditions, resources, *and their correct interpretation*  
requirements and attitudes prevailing in the world. They are essential  
to the development of policy to further our long term national security  
and best interests. To provide information of this kind is the task of the  
organization of which you are a part.

No task could be more important.

Upon the quality of your work depends in large measure the  
success of our effort to further the nation's position in the international  
scene.

By its very nature the work of this agency demands of its members  
the highest order of dedication, ability, trustworthiness and selflessness --  
to say nothing of the finest type of courage, whenever needed. Success  
cannot be advertised; failure cannot be explained. In the work of  
Intelligence, heroes are undecorated and unsung, often even among their  
own fraternity. Their inspiration is rooted in patriotism -- their reward  
can be little except the conviction that they are performing a unique and  
indispensable service for their country, and the knowledge that America  
needs and appreciates their efforts. I assure you this is indeed true.

The reputation of your organization for quality and excellence, *of performance*  
under the leadership of your Director, Mr. Allen Dulles, is a proud one.

Because I deeply believe these things, I deem it a great privilege  
to participate in this ceremony of corner-stone laying for the national  
headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency. On this spot will rise  
a beautiful and useful structure. May it long endure, to serve the cause  
of peace.

*America and of*

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